



Broadband Public Policy Update | September 3, 2010

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|---|
| I. Broadband Stimulus News | 3 |
| II. Congressional Updates | 3 |
| III. Federal Agency News and Proceedings | |
| A. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) | 3 |
| IV. Related News | 4 |
| V. State of Alabama Broadband-related News | 5 |

I. Broadband Stimulus News

- A. Advocates for Indian tribes are concerned over the recent \$302 million cut to funding in the broadband stimulus program. As the September 30 awards deadline nears, many are worried that Indian tribes will simply not receive funding. Read more at:
<http://www.indiancountrytoday.com/national/Broadband-cut-worries-tribes-101642003.html>
- B. RUS posted a directory of Satellite, Rural Library, and Technical Assistance Applications for Round 2. This comprehensive directory has applications sorted alphabetically by applicant name. View the directory at:
http://broadbandusa.sc.egov.usda.gov/BIPportal/files/BIP_Sat_TA_RLB_App_Directory.pdf

II. Congressional Updates

- A. Lawmakers are responding to the FCC's public notice on internet regulation. John Ensign, who sits on the Senate Commerce Committee's Communications Subcommittee, spoke on Chairman Genachowski's intent to reclassify broadband. Read the press release at:
http://ensign.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Media.PressRelease.s&ContentRecord_id=cf113f92-fa79-89ff-d717-067d8b0de1a4

III. Federal Agency News and Proceedings

- A. Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

The Federal Communications Commission released a public notice requesting comments on a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the matter of Preserving the Open Internet. The FCC seeks comments on rules that would enhance the Internet Policy Statement's four principles. Comments are due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register and reply comments are due 55 days after publication in the Federal Register.
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-10-1667A1.pdf

- B. On September 1, Chairman Genachowski released a statement on the open Internet public notice. Genachowski expressed that although progress has been made over the last year, there is still much to be done to preserve open Internet. According to Communications Daily, this comes at a time where there have been criticisms of Chairman Genachowski and his efforts in implementing these goals. Many have been questioning why

the FCC has been moving so slow on the plan, and why he is hesitating to make decision on policies. Read the statement by Genachowski at:
http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0901/DOC-301262A1.pdf

- C. The FCC released its Technical Paper No. 5 titled *Health Care Broadband in America*. This paper discusses the National Broadband Plan and its goals of bringing Health IT to hospitals, as well as closing the broadband connectivity gap among healthcare providers.

http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0827/DOC-301173A1.pdf

- D. The FCC released a [report](#) and [maps](#) that contain new data on internet access services. This data is recent as of June 2009 and was obtained from providers via Form 477. Read the press release at:

http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0902/DOC-301293A1.pdf

IV. Related News

- A. Clearwire, Sprint, Comcast Break Boston's 4G Floodgate
Mass High Tech - September 1, 2010

4G services are now available in Boston through Clearwire Corporation and its partners. The services will be available from Danvers to Norwood, Massachusetts. Customers can purchase a plan called Rover to access the new 4G network.

<http://www.masshightech.com/stories/2010/08/30/daily37-Clearwire-Sprint-Comcast-break-Bostons-4G-floodgate.html>

- B. Firms Want Say in Fate of Trouble IT
Tech Daily Dose - September 1, 2010

A week ago, the Obama Administration announced the possible elimination of 30 high-risk IT programs that would save close to \$30 billion. Now, some firms are asking to sit in on closed-door meetings in order to help determine if these projects should be eliminated.

<http://techdailydose.nationaljournal.com/2010/09/firms-want-say-in-fate-of-trou.php>

- C. How Neutral is the Internet?
National Journal.com -September 2, 2010

The dispute this week between AT&T and Free Press has raised the question of whether or not the internet is a democratic forum. The dispute mostly consists of the idea of "paid prioritization" and what regulatory

steps to take in order to keep the value of the internet equal across all spectrums of social and economic classes.

http://www.nationaljournal.com/njonline/tc_20100902_7144.php

D. Alcatel-Lucent Makes First LTE Call Within Public Safety Broadband Spectrum

Cellular-news – September 2, 2010

A data call was successfully conducted by Alcatel-Lucent using a LTE wireless broadband network at Band 14. This marks an important day in public safety, as it is a step toward deploying LTE technology for public safety applications.

<http://www.cellular-news.com/story/45176.php>

V. State of Alabama Broadband-related News

A. \$21 Million Grant Funds Fiber Optic Network

The Cedartown Standard – August 31, 2010

Appalachian Valley Fiber Network received a \$21 million grant from NTIA to expand broadband in Northwest Georgia and Eastern Alabama. Fiber optic infrastructure will span 187 miles bringing new opportunities to many counties, including Polk.

http://www.cedartownstd.com/view/full_story/9334247/article--21-million-grant-funds-fiber-optic-network?instance=home_local_news